



Department of Justice

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District of North Dakota

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<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nd/>

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The following link will provide you access to a readily accessible and fully loadable voice clip of United States Attorney Drew Wrigley commenting on this case. If you have any questions or cannot download the audio, please contact Ray Bakke at 701-297-7424.

[http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nd/pressreleases/2008/Adam Walsh Act.mp3](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nd/pressreleases/2008/Adam%20Walsh%20Act.mp3)

Fort Totten Man Sentenced to Thirty Years in Prison for Sexually Abusing a Child

FARGO - United States Attorney Drew Wrigley announced that on March 11, 2008, **Norris James Lohnes** of Fort Totten, North Dakota, was sentenced before United States District Court Judge Rodney S. Webb for aggravated sexual abuse and sexual abuse of a child. **Lohnes** becomes of the first defendant sentenced in North Dakota under the federal Adam Walsh Act.

Lohnes, 23, was found guilty by a 12-person jury on September 21, 2007, of forcing a 7-year-old female child to engage in sexual contact between his penis and the mouth of the child. The incident occurred in September of 2006 on the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation.

Judge Webb sentenced **Lohnes** to 30 years in federal prison, to be followed by a lifetime of court supervision. **Lohnes** was ordered to pay a \$200 special assessment to

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the Crime Victim's Fund.

U.S. Attorney Drew Wrigley issued the following statement regarding **Lohnes'** sentencing:

“Norris Lohnes was 21 years old when he committed the aggravated sexual abuse of a 7-year-old child in this case. Lohnes’ 30 year federal sentence will be served without the possibility of parole, and it reflects this simple judgment: our communities have had enough.

To all those who are now sexually abusing a child or who may consider doing so in the future, the message is clear: children are not sex objects, and predators who gratify themselves by raping, assaulting or sexualizing kids will be dealt with harshly in federal court. That’s the promise of the Adam Walsh Act and that’s the promise of the decades in federal prison that the Act requires.”

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Fort Totten Police Department.

Assistant United States Attorney Janice M. Morley prosecuted the case.

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